



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 25, 1998

H.R. 3303

Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1999, 2000, and 2001

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on September 17, 1998

SUMMARY

H.R. 3303 would authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1999 through 2001 for many programs and agencies in the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the United States Attorneys, and the Bureau of Prisons. In addition, the act would make relatively minor changes to the laws that govern the operation of DOJ agencies. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3303 would result in additional discretionary spending of about \$49 billion over the 1999-2003 period. This legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts, so pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 3303 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). The act would increase the authorization of appropriations for a number of DOJ programs, including border control programs operated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. State, local, and tribal governments may benefit from grant assistance provided through these programs.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3303 is shown in the following table. For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized by the act will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays generally will follow the historical spending rates for the authorized activities. We expect some programs to spend additional funds more slowly than the historical rates because the act would provide substantial increases in authorizations, relative to 1998. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On May 7, 1998, CBO prepared a cost estimate for H.R. 3303, the Department of Justice Appropriation Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1999, 2000, and 2001, as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on April 29, 1998. That legislation authorized total appropriations of about \$48 billion for the fiscal years 1999 through 2001. Most of the additional funding provided in the Senate Judiciary version of H.R. 3303 would support INS border control programs.

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